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INFORMATION REPORT

Feb
223

COUNTRY Ecuador

DATE DISTR. 2 September 1943

SUBJECT "Tito and the Cominform"

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED 25X1A
[REDACTED]

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO 25X1A
[REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

- 25X1X 1. [REDACTED] a closed meeting of approximately thirty-five specially invited Communist Party members was held to discuss several circulars recently received from the French Communist Party. The subjects of these circulars included "Tito and the Cominform", "Moscow and the Palestine Situation" and the "Berlin Situation". Because of a shortage of time, only the first circular was discussed.
2. Pedro Saad, prominent Communist labor leader, presided at the meeting. He discussed the newspaper reports and other accusations made against Tito as expressed publicly by the Cominform. According to Saad, Tito will have to conform one hundred per cent with the law laid down by the Kremlin or be expelled from the Party.
3. However, after the general meeting Saad continued the discussion with Primitivo Barreto, Secretary General of the Ecuadoran Communist Party, and with Gustavo Becerra, also a prominent Communist leader. Saad confided that at no time had there been an open break between Stalin and Tito. The Cominform had only publicized Tito's actions because they were contrary to the interests of Communism in general and because of the fear that his example might be followed in other countries. At the same time, however, Tito was advised not to be too concerned over the publicity since the Kremlin had complete confidence in him to demonstrate this was conducting military planning discussions in Belgrade and between representatives of the two countries.

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Document No. [REDACTED]
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Auth: DDA [REDACTED]
Date: 18 May 78 033

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